

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following explanations and remarks.

The total number of independent claims present and the total number of claims is covered by the original filing fee and no additional fee is required.

The amendment to the specification, and to the pages containing claims 18-20 and 28, corrects the errors objected to by the Examiner. No new matter is presented in the amendment.

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected as anticipated by Hinger et al. The amendment of claims 1 and 2 adds the feature of valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of acoustic venting. This feature is not found in Hinger et al or in other prior art which could be combined with that reference.

Claims 3 - 19 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any independent claims.

Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent as required and should be allowable.

Claim 4 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 4 as originally presented.

Claim 5 is now dependent on claim 4 and has the limitations in claim 5 as originally presented.

Claim 6 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 5 and 6 as originally presented.

Claim 7 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 5 and 6 as originally presented.

Claim 8 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 7 as originally presented.

Claim 9 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 10 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 11 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 12 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 13 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 14 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 15 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 16 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 17 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.

Claim 18 is now dependent on claim 3 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.

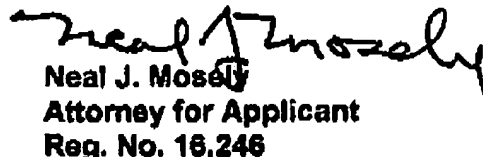
Claim 19 is now dependent on claim 3 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.

Claim 20 remains independent and includes the corrections required by the examiner.

Claim 26 remains dependent on claim 26 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


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List of claims:

- 1. (currently amended) A tunable drum comprising**
a hollow drum shell,
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,
an opening in said drum shell for acoustic venting, and
valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of
acoustic venting.

- 2. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 1 in which**
the variation in acoustic venting varies the volume, pitch, tone, timbre
and stick response of said drum.

- 3. (currently amended) ~~A drum according to claim 1~~**
A tunable drum comprising,
a hollow drum shell,
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,
an opening through said drum shell for acoustic venting,
means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of
acoustic venting, and
said size adjusting means comprises a slide valve movable between an
open and a closed position.

**4. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which
said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable between an open and a closed position.**

**5. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 4,
~~said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and~~
~~said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable between an open and a closed position.~~**

Including means for moving said valves together.

**6. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3 5, in which
said valves are movable pivotally between an open and a closed position, and
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said valves pivotally.**

**7. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which
said drum has a plurality of venting openings
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valve means movable between an open and a closed position relative to said openings, and**

means for moving said valve means between said open and closed positions.

- 8. (original claim) A drum according to claim 7, in which**
said drum has a plurality of venting openings
said valve means comprises a ring member having openings corresponding to said drum venting openings,
said ring member being movable between an open and a closed position relative to said openings, and
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said ring member between said open and closed positions.

- 9. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which**
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum.

- 10. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which**
said ring member is imperforate and positioned for rotation and endwise sliding movement inside said drum to cover or uncover said venting openings.

- 11. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which**
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum.

**12. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-
ing
an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-
side said drum, and
said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**13. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and in-
cluding
an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-
side said drum, and
said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**14. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-
ing
an operating handle secured on said ring member and extending outside
said drum, and**

said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings.

15. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and including

an operating handle secured on said ring member outside said drum, and

said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings.

16. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and including

a bolt member secured on said ring member and extending outside said drum, and

said bolt member being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings and on turning to a tightened position to fix said ring member in position.

17. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a first plurality of coplanar venting openings around the
periphery thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around
the periphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,

said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-
tween an open and a closed position, and

means for moving said valves between an open and a closed position.

18. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery
thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the pe-
riphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,

said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-
ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-
ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of
drum venting openings

said first and second ring members being movable between an open and
a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and

an operating member secured to said first and said second ring mem-
bers for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by
said drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said
open and ~~close~~ closed positions.

19. (original claim) A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a tensioning ring for securing a drumhead under high
tension on the drumshell,
said tensioning ring having an upstanding rim portion,
said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery
the drumshell and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the
periphery of said rim portion spaced from said first plurality of openings,
said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-
ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-
ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of
drum venting openings,
said first and second ring members being movable between an open and
a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and
an operating handle secured to said first and said second ring members
for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by said
drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said open and
closed positions.

20. (currently amended) The combination with a drum having a plurality
of venting openings in the drumshell, of
a ring memb-~~r~~ member of a size having a sliding fit in the drumshell for
movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

21. (original claim) A combination according to claim 20 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings, is split at one place, and has compressed spring means tending to expand the ring member to fit tightly inside said drum, and
said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

22. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings corresponding to said drum venting openings,
said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

23. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member is imperforate, and movable endwise of the drumshell between an open and a closed position across said openings.

24. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
there are two ring members,

means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation, and handles extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum for moving said rings in the drum shell.

25. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which, there are two ring members,

handle means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation, and extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum for moving said rings simultaneously in the drum shell.

26. (original claim) The combination with a drum, of a tensioning ring fitted on the end of the drumshell to tension a drum-head thereon,

said tensioning ring having a plurality of venting openings therein, and a ring member of a size having a sliding fit on said tensioning ring for movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

27. (original claim) A combination according to claim 26 in which, said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit inside said tensioning ring.

**28. (currently amended) A combination according to claim 26 in which,
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit on the outside of said
~~tensioning~~ tensioning ring.**